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## FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

March 15, 2021



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### TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING — MARCH 2021

The Transportation Commission met for an informal workshop on March 9, 2021. The Commission discussed the following items:

- **COVID-19 Relief Funds.** The Department of Transportation (DOT) presented its recommendation on the next round of federal funding that was signed into law in December 2020. Iowa will receive \$121.9 million in federal highway funding, which the DOT recommended be allocated according to a similar formula used for the Road Use Tax Fund (RUTF). Following this formula, the DOT would receive 47.5%, counties would receive 32.5%, and cities would receive 20.0% of the federal funds. Of the \$121.9 million in federal funding, the Primary Road Fund (PRF) would receive \$55.5 million, the secondary road fund would receive \$28.6 million, the farm-to-market fund would receive \$9.4 million, and \$23.4 million would go to city street funds. The DOT also recommended a \$5.0 million allocation for trail development. In an effort to get funds to local jurisdictions more quickly, the DOT recommended using the Federal-Aid Swap Policy. This would allow cities and counties to get their share of federal funding from the PRF, which would then be reimbursed with federal dollars when those are allocated.
- **Revitalize Iowa's Sound Economy (RISE) Fund Applications.** The Commission was given recommendations on two RISE applications:
  - To construct approximately 1,638 feet of Snap-On Drive in Algona, with a recommended award of approximately \$730,000.
  - To construct approximately 825 feet of 10th Avenue South and the paving of approximately 530 feet of South 19th Street in Estherville, with a recommended award of approximately \$390,000.
- **Corridor Preservation Zones.** The DOT proposed a new corridor preservation zone of 12 miles along Interstate 380, and the renewal of the corridor preservation zone for Interstate 80 in Dallas County.
- **Five-Year Forecast.** The DOT presented its updated forecast for the next five years, as well as an extended forecast for the following five years.

The business meeting was also held on March 9, 2021. The Commission took the following action:

- **Administrative Rules.** The Commission approved proposed rulemakings for [761 IAC 520](#) (Regulations Applicable to Carriers), [761 IAC 529](#) (For-Hire Interstate Motor Carrier Authority), [761 IAC 607](#) (Commercial Driver Licensing), and [761 IAC 424](#) (Transporter Plates).
- **RISE Fund Awards.** The Commission approved the award of RISE funding for the Algona and Estherville projects.
- **Program Funding Recommendations.** The Commission approved funding for the Mooring Cell Program, Linking Iowa's Freight Transportation System (LIFTS) Program, statewide line items for the 2022 to 2026 Highway Program, and FFY 2021 appropriation and COVID Relief funds.

**Next Meeting.** The next Commission meeting is scheduled for April 13, 2021, and will be held in Dubuque and via teleconference.

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